

Part Three

American Ancestors

Part three consists of American ancestors irrespective of whether they were born in America or immigrated. Immigrant ancestors for whom there is no known European lineage are covered solely in part three. If there is a known parent for the immigrant, the parent is covered in part two and the immigrants biography is in part three. There are cross references.

Part three is organized chronologically beginning with the first known immigrant ancestor's family. With each new generation's spouse, an additional family is introduced. There is a separate section for each family group.

Section I Gurganey Family

1.0 Edward Gurganey (Gurgany, Gourgany)

Edward Gurganey was born in England, probably before 1580 and married Anne _____ in England. He came to Jamestown in the "second supply" of 1608 and was listed as a gentleman. He is not listed on the plaque of first settlers of Jamestown.²

His original land was some 400 acres in Argall's Gift and he was one of its two representatives in the first General Assembly in Virginia that met from July 30 to August 4, 1619.³ Later he transferred his land holdings to Henrico⁴ and it was the Henrico Plantation that was subsequently transferred to Captain Thomas Harris⁵ (d.).

Edward and Anne had a daughter Adria (q.v.).

1. William D. Ligon, The Ligon Family and Connections (1947) p. 842.

2. _____ Jamestown Virginia and Jamestown Festival Park (Jamestown: Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, undated). p. 7.

3. Cynthia Miller Leonard, The General Assembly of Virginia July 30, 1619-January 11, 1619 (Schmied: Virginia State Library, 1978). p. 3.

4. Ligon, op. cit. p. 843.

5. Nell Marion Nugent, Cavaliers and Pioneers (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1979) p. 60.

Edward died before February 1620⁶ and Anne died
sometime thereafter because the description of
her will lists her as the widow of Edward.⁷

6. Parke House, Jr. "America's First Legislature"
The Iron Worker, Lynchburg Foundry Co.
vol. XXXV. No. 1, Winter 1971. p. 13.

7. Nugent, loc. cit.

1.1 Adria Gurganey

Adria was born in England and married circa 1598 Thomas Harris (q.v. See Harris Family, Section II, 1.0) in England. She came to Virginia with her mother after 1608 but she had to have been in America before April 1616 because she is listed among the "Ancient Planters".

She died in Virginia sometime before September 11, 1626.⁹

It appears that the Gurganey line in America stopped with the death of Edward and Adria. There is no evidence that Edward and Anne had children other than Adria.

8. Ligon, *op. cit.* p. 843.

9. *Ibid.*

Section II Harris Family

1.0 Thomas Harris (Herris, Harries)

Thomas, the third son of Sir William Harris and Alice Smith (q.v. see part two, subsection) was born in Essex, England in 1587. He came to Virginia in the ship "Prosperous" on May 22, 1611 and settled in the "Neck of Land" section of Henrico County.

He served as a captain in the Charles City Regiment in actions against the Indians in 1623 and 1627.² He also was a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, representing the Neck of Land in 1624 and Henrico in 1640⁴ and 1648.⁵

Thomas married Adria Gurganey in England (q.v. see Gurganey Family 1.0) and they had two known children, Robert (1.1) who was born in 1615 and Mary (q.v.).

1. William D. Ligon, The Ligon Family and Connections
(1947) p. 841.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 842.

3. Cynthia Miller Leonard, The General Assembly of Virginia July 30, 1619-January 11, 1778 (Richmond: Virginia State Library, 1978) p. 5.

4. *Ibid.*, p. 18.

5. *Ibid.*, p. 21.

Perhaps there were other children born in the ten year period 1615-1625.⁶

Thomas Acquired 400 acres from the estate of his mother-in-law Anne Gurganey whose will was dated February 11, 1619-20.⁷ On November 11, 1635 he received 750 acres in Nine Hundred in Henrico County bounded in part by the land of Edward Gurgany (Gourgany?). One hundred of these acres were due him as an Ancient Planter, and 650 acres in payment for the transportation of 13 persons.⁸ Thomas Harris also is shown as receiving another 820 acres in "Longfield" on February 25, 1638.⁹ Nugent lists a Thomas Harris who received between 40 and 1000 acres on six occasions between 1652 and 1664 but one cannot be sure that it was the same Thomas Harris although Sigon concludes that it was the same man.

6. Sigon, op. cit. p. 844.

7. Nell Marion Nugent, Cavaliers and Pioneers (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1979) p. 60.

8. *Ibid* p. 33.

9. *Ibid* p. 101.

Adria Gurganey Harris died before September 11, 1626 and Thomas married second, Joane Osborne, and they had sons Thomas and William.¹⁰ It is possible that later land transactions in the name of Thomas Harris could have been those of the son.

The date of death of Thomas or his second wife is not known, but it was probably after 1638.

10. Legon, *op. cit.* p. 844.

4
1.2. Mary Harris

Mary was probably born in 1625 and married
Col. Thomas Ligon (q.v. see Ligon Family, Section II, 1.0)
circa 1648-50. Mary died in 1704.

Section III
Ligon Family

1.0 Colonel Thomas Ligon (Liggon, Ligggon, Liggon, Liggan, Liggan, Ligon)

Thomas Ligon, oldest son of (q.v. see part two, subsection -) and Frances Dennis, was born in 1586 in Madresfield, England. He married, first, a daughter of Dennis Cratt of Warwickshire and they had issue living in 1630. There is no record of the fate of his wife or children. He came to Jamestown in 1641 with his cousin, Governor William Berkeley. Thomas Ligon married second Mary Harris (q.v. See Harris family, Section II 1.2) circa 1648-50.

Thomas Ligon's land was along the James River in Henrico County near the Civil War Malvern Hills Battleground. He was granted a land patent for 800 acres at Powell Creek on April 5, 1664³. Thomas Ligon and William Farrar jointly secured 375 acres and 335 acres in Henrico County on October 3, 1664.⁴

Colonel Ligon was surveyor for Henrico County, Justice of the Peace for Charles City County and Lt. Col. for the county.²

1. William N. Ligon, The Ligon Family and Connections
(1947) pp. 104-106.

2. *Ibid* pp. 306-311

3. Neil Marion Nugent, Cavaliers and Pioneers (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1979) p. 440.

4. *Ibid* p. 516.

He and William Harris (his wife's businessman) were in
The House of Burgesses in the 1656 session.⁵

Thomas and Mary Harris Ligon had six children:

- 1.1 William Ligon
- 1.2 John Ligon
- 1.3 Richard Ligon (g.v.)
- 1.4 Mathew Ligon
- 1.5 Hugh Ligon
- 1.6 Mary Ligon

Colonel Ligon's will was dated January 16, 1675 and his
widow, Mary, was named executrix on March 16, 1675/76.⁶

5. Cynthia Miller Leonard, The General Assembly of
Virginia July 30, 1619 - January 11, 1978 (Richmond:
Virginia State Library, 1979) p. 33.

6. Ligon, op cit pp. 313-318.

Richard Ligon.

Richard Ligon was born in 1657 in Henrico County, Virginia. He married circa April 1, 1680 Mary Korsham, (q.v. see Korsham Family, Section V) daughter of William Korsham and Elizabeth — Korsham.

He succeeded his father as surveyor of Henrico County and he was known as an Indian fighter. Various colonial records show Richard Ligon involved in horse racing, swearing in public and as a witness in property disputes.

Richard and Mary Korsham Ligon had four children:

- 1.3.1 Mathew Ligon (q.v.)
- 1.3.2 Henry Ligon
- 1.3.3 Sarah Ligon
- 1.3.4 Mary Ligon

He died prior to April 4, 1724; nothing is known about Mary's death. ⁷

1.3.1 Matthew Ligon

Matthew was probably born between 1680-85 in Henrico County, Virginia and it is assumed that he was the eldest child because he was the executor of his father's will.

He married Elizabeth Anderson (q.v. see Anderson Family, Section V) before 1710. Nothing is known of her parentage, but one can conclude from court records that her father was Matthew Anderson, Jr.

Matthew Ligon was a constable in Henrico County in 1710, and tobacco counter in 1724 and 1725. He patented land in Gloucester (later Cumberland then Powhatan County) prior to 1749. He acquired 290 acres in Henrico County on January 9, 1718 and 300 acres south of the James River at Pine Creek on September 5, 1723. On September 17, 1731 he was granted 1100 acres on the south side of the James River adjacent to Col. William Randolph.

Matthew and Elizabeth Anderson Ligon had seven children.

- 1.3.1.1 Richard Ligon
- 1.3.1.2 James Ligon
- 1.3.1.3 Matthew Ligon, Jr.
- 1.3.1.4 Thomas Ligon (q.v.)
- 1.3.1.5 Elizabeth Ligon
- 1.3.1.6 William Ligon
- 1.3.1.7 Frances Ligon

1.3.1.4 Thomas Ligon

He was born February 7, 1724 or 1725 in Bristol Parish, Henrico County, Virginia. He was in Cumberland County, Lunenburg County and in 1765 Thomas was in Charlotte County which was formed from Lunenburg County in 1764; he probably did not move, but his land changed County names. The land, 300 acres on Twitty's Creek, was acquired on October 17, 1755

His wife was Ann but nothing is known about her. They had five children:

1.3.1.4.1 Thomas Ligon Jr.

1.3.1.4.2 Elizabeth Ligon

1.3.1.4.3 Mary Ligon

1.3.1.4.4 Joseph Ligon

1.3.1.4.5 Obedience Ligon (g.v.)

It is not known when Thomas or Ann died or where they are buried. It appears that they were less prosperous than the earlier Ligon.

1.3.1.4.5. Obedience Ligon

She was probably born in 1750's or early 1760's, and her marriage to John Owen (v. See Owen Family, Section II) on March 11, 1784 is well documented.^{1,2,3,4,5} Some family legends state that she died in Virginia before 1800. However, one can conclude that she was alive in Barron County, Kentucky as late as 1844 when John and Obedience sold land to Fountain Dube. An 1844 death would help to account for John's emancipating his slaves and creating a new will in 1845.

1. Ligon, op. cit. p. 674
2. Emma F. Matheny and Helen F. Yates, Marriages of Lunenburg County, Virginia (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1979) p. 90
3. Lunenburg County, Virginia Vital Records: Marriage Bonds Book 3, page 156
4. Upperman Church Tape # C3241
5. Dorothy Ford Kiefer, "Marriages of Some Virginia Residents 1607-1800" Series I, Volume 5 (Naugatuck, privately published) p. 142.
6. Barron County, Kentucky General Index to Deeds, Grants M-K, 1798-1935 pp. 16-17; Deed Book K p. 365.

Section IV
Norsham Family

Section V Anderson Family

The Census records are very poor, but history
tells the name of early generation but records do
not support the speculations of the alleged ancestry
about estates or accomplishments. The uncorroborated
fact that the name Brown was on Oregon company
Tally and Maps but 30 years, "Brown" and in
Census only immigrated to Oregon between 1842 and
1845. Others of the name, as "Brown" and "Brown"
"Brown" but in "Brown" and in "Brown" who with
"Brown" and "Brown" as well as "Brown" and "Brown"
in Oregon between 1842 and 1845.

But just that, even now the name has been found in
Oregon in the year 1842 and it is the fact that
that the first Brown family would have been in
Oregon in the year 1842.

Based on the present records, the name Brown
that came to this country early and not as a great
part of the early immigrants but have been in
the country since the early and Brown was not among

1. The name Brown and Mary Brown, Oregon
and immigrants had been in Oregon in 1842
(1842).

2. The name Brown, Oregon, Oregon
and immigrants had been in Oregon in 1842
(1842).

Section VI Owen Family

The Owen immigrant is unknown. Oral histories take the name to early Jamestown but records do not support the existence of the alleged ancestors, their estates or accomplishments. It is undisputed that the name Owen was in America very early. Felty and Myers list 38 "Owen," 7 "Owens," and 13 "Owin" who immigrated to Virginia between 1622 and 1732. Others of the names arrived in other colonies. Nugent² list 16 "Owens" and 5 "Owens" who either received land patents or were sponsored settlers in Virginia between 1623 and 1666.

The fact that Owen ancestors have been proved in Virginia in the mid 17c's support the tradition that the first Owen ancestor could have been in Virginia in the mid 1600's.

Based on the present knowledge, one cannot conclude that any of those listed among early colonists is in fact an ancestor; conversely, none has been disproved. It is possible that the immigrant Owen is not among

1. William Felty and Mary Z. Myers, Passenger and Immigration Lists Index (Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1981)

2. Will Marion Nugent, Coaches and Pediclers (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1979)

those on extant lists. Potential for identifying additional generations is sufficiently promising to encourage continuing research.

Walter Owen

Walter Owen of Lunenburg County, Virginia seems to be the first identified Owen ancestor. Some Owen historians have stated flatly that Walter is the ancestor but records do not prove it conclusively. Other family members have named their version of David's father but there is no support for their theories.

The Lunenburg County Records¹ do establish that a Walter Owen's will was published on January 27, 1765 in which he named his wife Joyce and four sons:

- 1.1 Barnett Owen
- 1.2 William Owen
- 1.3 Joseph Owen
- 1.4 David Owen

Walter Owen's estate was inventoried on September 12, 1765 and appraised at just over £96. The most valuable possessions were a bay horse, 5 head of cattle, 15 head of "hoggs" and 5 sheep.²

1. Lunenburg County, Virginia Court Records, Will Book 2, p. 260
Mormon type #03241.

2. *Ibid*

Although one must rely on a single source, there are reasons for considering Walter as the most likely possibility.

1. The place is right. David's children are proven to be in Lunenburg County twenty years after Walter's death. Lunenburg was created from Brunswick County in 1746 and Halifax County was created from Lunenburg County in 1752.³ Thus, the family ties with Brunswick, Lunenburg, and Halifax Counties are consistent with the county histories and suggest that the family could have settled before 1746 and that county boundaries changed around the property.
2. The time is right. David, the known ancestor, was of military age in 1760 and had two sons who did serve with the Virginia troops. Thus, David was probably born in the late 1730's or early 1740's. Therefore, David would have been some 25 years of age when Walter's letter was written.
3. The names are right. The Owen family in Virginia, Kentucky, and Illinois followed the practice of perpetuating traditional names. David had sons named Walter, William, Joseph, and David.
4. The job is right. Walter's inventory hints that

3. George B. Everton, Jr., The Handy Book for Genealogist (Logan: The Everton Publishers, 1981) p. 304.

he was a modest farmer; the same as his descendants.

5. No evidence has been found in Lunenburg or contiguous counties to advance an alternative ancestor

It is likely that Walter Owen was born circa 1700, died between January 27, 1765 and September 12, 1765 and left four sons, one of whom was David, the proven ancestor. Additional research should continue until this Walter - David relationship is either proved conclusively or disproved. Walter will be accepted in this edition with the caveat that research may reject him in future editions.

4 David Owen

The oral histories are consistent in ending with David Owen of Virginia. Relatively little is known about him and there are inconsistencies in the versions that have been passed down through the many lines.

Walter Owen and Joyce — are the most likely possibilities as his parents, but one cannot be absolutely sure.

David's date of birth is not known. One tradition has him born in 1741. According to testimony by two of his sons, he was of an age to be conscripted into the Revolution but his son William served in his place and a son John also was in the Revolution. ⁴ Thus, a birthdate in the 1740's is reasonable. A family legend says he was a Royalist but there is no evidence to support that theory.

There is also dispute with respect to his wife. One version says she was Elizabeth Nance and another says she was Sarah —. No records have

4. Barron County, Kentucky Court Record, May term 1839, order number 7-39, 40 p. 40.

been found to prove or disprove either version.

It is clear that he had a fairly large family and much of the legends can be supported from Lunenburg County Records. However, their order of birth is subject to speculation and only seven appear in all accounts:

- 1.4.1 William Owen (g.v.)
- 1.4.2 John Owen (g.v.) born circa 1764
- 1.4.3. Joseph Owen born circa 1766
- 1.4.4. James Owen (g.v.)
- 1.4.5 David Owen
- 1.4.6 Elizabeth Owen
- 1.4.7 Walter Owen
- 1.4.8 Richard Owen, born August 15, 1784

One version says that Richard was the son of William. Although mathematically possible, it is unlikely. Two other children are alleged, Jesse and Nancy, but there is no evidence to support the account.

Family tradition says that David left Virginia to live with his daughter, Elizabeth Owen Martin in Barren County, Kentucky. David does not appear as head of a household in the 1810 census.

There is an inventory and sale for a David Owen,

deceased, dated April 26, 1816 in Barren County. The meager inventory included a horse and tack, razor, Bible, bed-tick, 1 "sheat and piller case", looking glass, and small tools. He held notes on Walter Owen, James B. Martin, and Joseph Martin. The total value of the notes was \$145.81 and the personal property sold for \$62.17½.

Many questions remain about David. Was he a large land holder in Virginia? Why did he leave Virginia, especially if his son David remained in Virginia? Did young David die early and leave the father with no one to care for him? How would an aged man travel from Virginia to Kentucky in the early 1800's? Did David have two wives in order to account for the 22-25 year spread between Richard and the oldest child?

142. John Owen

John Owen was probably the second of eight children of David Owen. There are conflicting accounts with respect to John's mother, but there is no record.

John was probably born in Halifax County, Virginia circa 1764. John swore in open court in Barren County, Kentucky on May 20, 1839 that he was then 75 years old.⁵

Apparently David's family was living in Lunenburg County in 1781, the year that John claims that he joined the Patriot Militia in Lunenburg. John stated that he first joined on January 16, 1781 as a member of Captain Francis De Graffenreid's Company of Colonel Meriwether's Regiment. The unit met about 12 miles west of Petersburg, Virginia and marching from Petersburg to the Rappahannock River. The regiment was used to guard against British and Tory depredations in the Yorktown, Virginia area. The Patriots attacked the British Fort that was located some 10-12 miles from Yorktown but the Patriots were repulsed and

5. Barren County Court Records, May term 1839, order 7-39; 40 p. 40.

pursued to Suffolk after which Merrimether
retreated into North Carolina. John became
sick and was hospitalized until May 1, at
which time he was released and sent home
to Lunenburg County.⁶

In the Fall, John was drafted and served
in Captain Knight's Company in Colonel
David Storey's Regiment. This command
marched through Petersburg to Yorktown.
He was released November 1781. John applied
for a Revolutionary War Pension in Warren
County, Kentucky in 1839, but it was rejected
because he served less than the required
six months.⁷

⁶ National Archives of the United States
Revolutionary War Records.

⁷ Ibid.

On March 11, 1784 John and Obedience Lyon were married in Lunenburg County, Virginia by ^{8, 9, 10, 11, 12} Reverend Thomas Grymes, a Baptist minister. John and Obedience probably had three children:

1. James Owen (q.v.)
2. Johnson Owen (q.v.)
3. Elizabeth. She married in Barren County, Kentucky Azariah Hatcher, a Baptist minister.

One version of the oral history says that there was a second daughter, Lucy who married a Nations but there is no record of her in Kentucky.

8. Lyon, op. cit. p. 174.

9. Emma S. Mathis and Helen K. Tate, Language of Lunenburg County, Virginia (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1979) p. 96.

10. Lunenburg County, Virginia Vital Records: Marriage Bonds Book 3, p. 156

11. Newmarket Church tape #03241

12. Dorothy Ford Wiffick, "Marriages of Some Virginia Residents 1607-1800", Series I, Volume 5 (Naugatuck, privately published) p. 142

There are theories that John had a wife in addition to Obedience and there were children by both.

Another version says that Obedience died in the early in the early 1790's and John married Elizabeth Humphries in Yanceyville, North Carolina in 1799, and there were eight more children. However, Barren County records conclusively show that there were two John Owens in the county in the early 1800's. The other, John Holland Owen, was a Baptist preacher and married Elizabeth Humphries. The Barren County records clearly refute this theory.

Ina Anderson Williams reported that "the records state that he was married twice."¹³ Lulu Owen Snodgrass, relying on another source said that John and Nancy had a son James J. Owen who became lost to history after Nancy's death.¹⁴ There are several reasons for doubting this theory:

1. The Virginia records do not show a John Owen / Nancy Martin marriage.
2. John was about 21 when he married

13. Ina Anderson Williams (Unpublished Owen History)

14. Lulu Owen Snodgrass, Owen Family - A History (Privately Published, 1980)

Obedience. If he had a previous wife and child, and allowing for a modest bereavement period, he had to be unreasonably young when he married Nancy.

3. This version states that the widower, John, found Obedience in Pittsburgh, but the marriage took place in Lunenburg County, Virginia. It seems unlikely that a 1784 bride would travel from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to Lunenburg County, Virginia.
4. It is well established that the Owen and Ligon families were long residents of the Halifax - Lunenburg area.
5. The Ina Anderson Williams Genealogy says the children were James, Johnson, Wiley and Elizabeth. It is impossible to know how many times the paper has been retyped but it is clear that a later typist failed to insert a comma between James and Johnson. Thus the alleged son of John and Nancy, James Johnson Owen, was erroneously identified as a result of a typographical error. James and Johnson were clearly brothers.
6. James, as discussed above, was born circa 1789; John and Obedience were married in 1784; therefore James could

not have been the son of an alleged wife
who died before 1784, and James clearly
was the child of John and Obedience.

Family tradition states that John arrived in
Kentucky in 1799. He settled in the northern part of
Barren County, and the present Cave City Kentucky
is situated on the original John Owen tract.

At the October 1845 term of the Barren County Court,
John Owen emancipated twelve slaves. ¹⁵

On December 15, 1845 John made the will that was
current at the time of his death:

"I, John Owen of the County of Barren and State of
Kentucky do make, ordain and establish this
instrument to be my last will and testament -
In the first place I direct and desire my executors
hereinafter appointed, to sell all my estate real
and personal and out of the proceeds thereof to pay
all my just debts and funeral expenses - In the
next place I will mention that at the October
term 1843 of the Barren County Court I emancipated
the following negroes to wit, Christopher, Henry,
and her nine children: James, Elizabeth, Edwin,

15. Barren County General Index to Records 1798-1935 -
Grantees M-R, pp 16-17; Book R, p 406.

Andrew Jackson, Charles, America, Mary Ann, Martha,
and James and Sarah the daughter of Janny: Now
should said negroes desire after my death to remove
to a free state, it is my will and desire that my
executor hereinafter appointed shall make all
necessary provisions for their comfortable
removal, and aid and assist them in their
removal and pay the whole expense of said
removal out of the proceeds of the sale of my
estate. — In the third place, attempts have already
been made to prevent and defeat the emancipation
of said negroes. Now should any attempt be
made after my death to set aside my said
emancipation of said negroes or in any way
to enslave them, it is my will and desire that
my said executor shall defend them against any
such attempt, and pay all the expense attending
such defense out of the proceeds of the sale of my
estate. I have already spoken to B. Smith Esquire
as an attorney to defend said negroes against any
such attempt and have given him twenty dollars
as a retainer fee for that purpose and should
such attempt be made, I desire my said executor
to see him upon the subject and direct his
services as an attorney and pay him whatever
fee may be reasonable. — In the fourth place,
I desire that my said executor shall retain
out of the proceeds of the sale of my estate a
reasonable compensation for his services. —

In the fifth place, after all the expenses attending the execution of this my will, I desire that all the remainder of the proceeds of the sale of my estate shall be equally divided among my children that may be alive, and my grandchildren of such may be dead - such grandchildren receiving the portion their parent would have been entitled to if alive. In the last place, I constitute and appoint Peter Owen of Hart County, executor of this my last will and testament - in testimony whereof I have here unto set my hand and seal this 13th day of December 1845

Geo. T. Middleton
Walter Owen

John Owen (seal)

Borran County, SC. May 1847

The foregoing writing purporting to be the last will of John Owen and having been filed at the last January term for proof and being continued until the present term was taken up and proven in due form of law by the oath of George T. Middleton and Walter Owen witnesses thereto. Where upon the same was ordered to be recorded as the true last will of said John Owen, dec.

Att. Tho. J. Helm CCBC "16

The will established that he was a freed owner in December 1845, and his wife probably had died by the time of the emancipation prior to October. At the time he executed his will he was approximately 81 years old.

There are questions raised by the will that cannot be answered satisfactorily either from other records or family legends.

1. Why were his children born in December 1845 and why did he not name them in his will? Note that all the former slaves and their relationships were clearly set forth.
2. Why did he accord his former slaves precedence over his own children? Was there family friction, as legends say, that caused him to remove the priority for his children? Had James really made Kentucky because of slaves? Were his children among those who intended to revert to slavery? Had the children not cared for him in his dotage?
3. Why was an 81 year old cautious in specifying those children who survived him?

Had some relocated and lost contact?
Were some in ill health?

4. Who were the grandchildren and why did he not name them? By 1845, John's son James had a son Johnson Monroe Owen who was 34 years old and had 5 children at the time of the 1846 Wayne County, Illinois census. They did the will not anticipate great grandchildren?
5. Who were Peter Owen and Walter Owen? Neither is reported as a son and there is nothing in the records to suggest that they were grandchildren. Were they cousins or nephews?

John Owen died sometime prior to January 7, 1847, the date on the inventory of John's personal property. The value of the live stock, crops, furniture, tools and miscellaneous items was \$300. In addition, the following notes were itemized:

E. Bianbenship		12.97
H. L. Owen	due 15 July 1846	15.00
Johnson Owen	" 15 Aug. 1837	9.18 $\frac{3}{4}$
J. O. Owen	" 25 Dec. 1838	115.00
E. Nickley	" 16 Mar. 1847	40.72
Wm Edwards	" 23 Dec. 1846	36.39
G. J. Owen	" 24 Sep. 1846	85.02

Johnson Owen signed as the person compiling the inventory. This Johnson Owen was probably the second son who remained in Kentucky. James Owen (g.v.), the eldest child had already moved to Illinois. John had a younger brother Joseph. The Nickes and Owens intermarried in Kentucky. Henry L. Owen was a son of Johnson Owen. ¹⁷ Thomas Edwards is not identified. T. J. Owen was a step son of Johnson Owen.

The personal property was sold on January 30, 1847 and brought \$387.20.

The disposition of John Owen's real property is complicated. Peter Owen, the executor, filed an indenture in the Barren County Court on October 9, 1857 in which he stated that there were six tracts of land totalling 342½ acres that were sold to J. R. Maupin and J. S. Jarvis on September 17, 1849 for \$1,732. Maupin and Jarvis then sold the land to Thomas Rube before the expiration of the note due two years after the date of the sale. Apparently Rube speculated successfully and sold the land which became the present Cave City, Kentucky, on the L. & N. Railroad tracks. ¹⁸

18. William L. Thomas, private correspondence.

On October 6, 1647 James Owen of Wayne County,
Tennessee (John's oldest son) sold to Schuyler H.
Murrell his interest in the tract of land on
which John Owen lived in "the Barrens of
Barren County, Kentucky" for \$300. The
indenture described James as one of the
"heirs and designees of said John Owen, dec'd." #19

